Message Text

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EO 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJ: UNCTAD SUGAR CONFERENCE-REACTIONS TO FIRST DAY SESSION

1. UNCTAD SUGAR CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN JONES-PARRY RELEASED HIS PROPOSAL ON BASIC EXPORT TONNAGES AFTERNOON SEPT 12. TEXT TRANSMITTED SEPTEL. AFTER BRIEF ANALYSIS, US DEL SEES FOLLOWING POTENTIAL PROBLEMS WITH JONES-PARRY FORMULATION: A) "NET TOTAL" EXPORTS TO FREE MARKET (16,462,750 METRIC TONS) IN 1978 APPEAR TOO LARGE TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM PRICE OBJECTIVE.

B) REASONING USED TO REACH "NET TOTAL" EXPORTS IN 1978
IS REVERSE OF WHAT US HAD ENVISAGED. INSTEAD OF SETTING
EXPORT QUOTAS WHICH COULD BE REDUCED, MAXIMUM QUOTA CUTS (15PERCENT)
ARE UTILIZED (I.E. APPLIED TO B.E.T.S) AS VERY BEGINNING TO
ACHIEVE ROUGH APPROXIMATION WITH FREE MARKET DEMAND.
C) SHORTFALLS WILL NOT BE REDISTRIBUTED BUT INSTEAD WILL
BE USED TO "BRING SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN 1978 INTO RELATIVE
BALANCE."

D) IT IS ASSUMED THAT EC WILL JOIN AND WILL ACCEPT ADDITIONAL STOCKING EQUIVALENT OF 15PERCENT REDUCING ITS EXPORT AVAILABILITY FROM 2 MILLION TO 1.7 MILLION TONS IN 1978.

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E) JONES-PARRY PROPOSAL PROVIDES EXTRA QUOTAS FOR SMALL LDC EXPORTERS IN TEMPORARY NEED FROM THE SECOND YEAR ONWARDS.

2. INITIAL REACTION TO JONES-PARRY PROPOSAL AMONG DELEGATES HAS BEEN GUARDED. BRAZIL APPEARS TO BE THE BIG LOSER MOVING FROM FIRST PLACE IN JONES-PARRY'S MAY CALCULATIONS TO THIRD PLACE IN CURRENT PROPOSAL. THERE IS ALSO CONSIDERABLE

UNDERCURRENT THAT CUBA RECEIVED PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ON LATEST ALLOCATION.

3. IT LIKELY THAT SERIOUS PROTESTS TO JONES-PARRY PROPOSAL WILL BEGIN TO BE HEARD TOMORROW (SEPT 13). JONES-PARRY HAS ANNOUNCED CREATION OF A QUOTA APPEALS BOARD COMPOSED OF HIMSELF AND A SENIOR UNCTAD OFFICIAL WHO IS EXPECTED TO BE CHIDZERO. VANDEN HEUVEL

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